

STATUS OF WOMEN \_ WORKING GROUP ON CURRICULUM

Minutes of the eight meeting of the Curriculum Committee held on September 11th, 1986 at 1:00 p.m. at 2145 MacKay Street.

ATTENDANCE: Present Barbara Barclay, Elizabeth Morey, Catherine Rutherford, Fran Shaver, Helen Workman and Madeleine Yates.

Guest Tom Waugh

Absent Sharon Hyman.

Linda MacDonald sent in her resignation as her working schedule prevented her active participation in the work of the committee.

Tom Waugh from the Fine Arts Faculty was invited to become a member of the group.

Elizabeth wanted to get in perspective what we had done so far and where we were going as a committee.

Some of the things we have done - an assessment of the course guides in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

- drafted a question to be reworked and eventually included on course evaluations.
- sensitized the curriculum Vice-Rector, Sean McEneaney about the issue of a sexist curriculum and he has promised to raise the matter with his deans.
- held discussions with Ron Smith of the Learning Development Centre - negotiations underway for a proposed seminar in November.
- initial overture made to Institutional Research for procuring of statistical data along gender lines.
- article drafted for The Link on Chilly Classroom Climate for women.

Helen reported that Concordia would be unable to host a teleconference as she would have been keen to do on women studies issues as the facilities available are inadequate to do this job.

Again, discussions were held on the importance of educating the students about the issue of a sexist curriculum. They needed to be sensitized so that they could demand a balanced curriculum and be aware of the issue when they became the educators of tomorrow. Students, faculty and people acting in a consular role were deemed the most important target groups.

Fran pointed out the difficulty of coming up with a workable hypothesis if the idea of a research project were to be pursued. A discussion was held on the most efficient method of gathering information etc. interview vs. questionnaire, costs, conception etc.

Elizabeth wanted all members of this working group to study the draft question on sexism in the curriculum to be included in the course evaluations and come up with suggestions on rephrasing, improvements, rewording by the next meeting. She also wanted people to read her précis of the article "Chilly Classroom Climate for Women" and come up with critical comments

by the next meeting.

The meeting on August 28th was cancelled because of the low attendance figure.

The next meeting of the Status of Women Committee - working group on Curriculum will be held on Wednesday, October 1st at 1:00 p.m. in S-2-6, 2145 MacKay Street.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Gates".